

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Hirotaka TODAKA et al.) Group Art Unit: Not Assigned
)
Application No.: Not Assigned) Examiner: Not Assigned
)
Filed: February 23, 2004)
)
For: PARTIALLY REINFORCING)
METHOD AND APPARATUS OF)
METAL MATERIAL)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with this new application.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and are in a non-English language:

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1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication (KOKAI) No. 7-3427 is discussed at page 2 of the specification of the present application. An English-language abstract of this document is enclosed.

2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication (KOKAI) No. 2002-241835 is discussed at page 2 of the specification of the present application. An English-language abstract of this document is enclosed.

3. An English-language abstract is enclosed for Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication (KOKAI) No. 2-89599.

4. An English-language abstract is enclosed for Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication (KOKAI) No. 8-33933.

5. An English-language abstract is enclosed for the Journal of the JSTP, vol. 44, No. 505 (2003-2) pp. 100-105.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the Patent and Trademark Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

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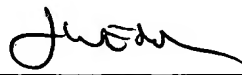
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If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
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Dated: February 23, 2004

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	02886.0088	Appln. No.	Not Assigned
Applicants	Hirotaka TODAKA et al.		
Filing Date	February 23, 2004	Group:	Not Assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
7-3427	1/6/95	Japan			Abstract
2002-241835	08/28/02	Japan			Abstract
02-089599	03/29/90	Japan			Abstract
08/033933	02/06/96	Japan			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	Journal of the JSTO, "A High Distorsion Processing as a Method of Superrefining of Grains", Vol. 44, no. 505 (2003-2) along with an English Abstract.

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce